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CURRENT SUPPORT MEMORANDUM

WATER TRANSPORT TRAFFIC WITH HAINAN ISLAND

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WATER TRANSPORT TRAFFIC WITH HAINAN ISLAND

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The south coast is estimated to account for about 25 percent of all coastal traffic.

The data reported indicate a total volume of movement of about 100,000 tons with the two ports (55,388 tons with Hoihow and 44,113 tons with Yulin) during the first quarter of 1958. This rate indicates an annual volume of about 400,000 tons. However, this is a minimum figure, since the other three quarters of the year will be higher if past traffic patterns hold this year. 2/ Moreover, it leaves out of consideration traffic from other ports, especially Paso, a port on the west coast designed primarily to handle iron ore from the rich Shihlu mines. It was reported that Paso was scheduled to ship 54,000 tons of ore during the fourth quarter of 1957, 3/ and the rate during 1958 will probably be larger as work on the port approaches completion. The volume of commodities other than ore shipped out or the volume of shipments into Paso are unknown. It is estimated that ore shipments from Paso during 1958 will reach at least 225,000 tons. These figures suggest that coastal traffic with Hainan Island in 1958 will not be lower than 625,000 tons, and may actually come closer to 750,000 tons.

The commodity composition of the traffic, in total and for each direction of movement, is given in the following table:

Commodity Composition of Planned Water Transport Traffic
with Hainan Island
(Hoihow and Yulin Only)
First Quarter, 1958

Commodity	Total Traffic <u>a/</u>	In Percent	
		Traffic from Mainland	Traffic to Mainland
Ore	27.2	0	51.3
Wood	8.2	13.0	3.8
Construction Materials	5.3	11.0	0.2
Petroleum	4.7	10.0	0
Salt	3.5	0	6.6
Food	3.3	6.8	0.2
Coal and Charcoal	2.3	4.8	0
Steel, Iron and Manufactured Goods	2.1	4.5	0
Cotton Yarn and Cloth	0.6	1.4	0
Vegetable Oil	0.4	0.2	0.6
Others <u>b/</u>	42.4	48.4	37.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

a/ This column may also be read as approximate thousands of tons.

b/ While it is not definitely known what is included in this classification, it is believed to consist mostly of military-use materials.

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